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# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

## WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, political fields, and such other information as will benefit the trade union movement.

VOL. 3. NO. 30 WASHINGTON, D. C. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1913. WHOLE NO. 134

# FIGHTING SPIRIT OF THE MICHIGAN COPPER MINERS INSPIRING AND INDICATIVE OF VICTORY

Washington, Oct. 25.—Major and minor divisions of the organized labor movement are actively engaged in urging the unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor to contribute not less than 5 cents per member to assist the copper miners of Michigan. This struggle is being made to establish a decent standard of living. The miners, only partially organized before the strike, are now members of the miners' union. The heroic sacrifices they are making must appeal to the organized workmen of the entire country. The United Mine Workers are generously aiding the metal miners, but there are many thousands to care for, and organized labor as a whole is urged to do its share in providing sustenance that the contest may be continued. Millions have been taken from the copper mines with not a single thought of the copper miner. Fabulous dividends have been declared while the miner has worked for only sufficient to meet his barest necessities. Emboldened by the docility of the copper miner, the employers seek to starve the last vestige of independence out of him by making his present efforts futile. This is a trade union fight. It is the duty of every union man to do his share. Respond magnanimously to the call, and forward all contributions to Frank Morrison, Secretary American Federation of Labor, Ouray Building, Washington, D. C.

### A NEW HOME.

San Francisco, Oct. 25.—Excavating work for the construction of a three-story, steel frame building on the lot recently purchased by the Maritime Hall Association has actually commenced. The lot is located on Clay Street, near Sansom, and will extend through to Commercial Street. The building will be erected upon a pile foundation and have a heavy basement construction, which will be diaphragmed waterproof, the party walls being of re-enforced concrete and the street fronts in brick. Both street frontages will be built up of the finest materials, using granite, glazed polychrome, terra cotta, and very-enameled pressed brick. Over each of the main entrances will be placed a granite mosaic, colored panel depicting Neptune and his trident. The main meeting hall will be decorated and finished in ornamental plaster, allegorical designs. The property is owned jointly by the Sailors' Union of the Pacific and the Alaska Fishermen's Union. The lot cost $44,000, and the contract price for the building complete is every respect, is $47,750. The entire amount is available in the treasuries of the two unions. When the building is completed it will be paid for and debt free, without mortgages, bonds, or any outstanding obligations. The hopes and aspirations of these unions will be realized upon the completion of this home, and the Sailors and Fishermen are to be congratulated upon their long and persistent efforts to erect the building, which, when completed, will be their own and free of any obligation.

### SHAME OF INDIANA.

Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 25.—The condition existing in this city in the street car situation is one to be marveled at in a civilized community. A strike of the men on the Interurban system occurred some time ago, but was practically defeated. Since that time an organized effort has been made, which has proved successful beyond expectation, to organize all of the employees of the traction system. To thwart the efforts of the organizers the Public Service Railway Company has had imported into the city a large number of men who will do the bidding of the traction company. Organizers and union men have been openly attacked, some of whom were brutally beaten, and aside from this the steps of those who are active in organizing the street car men are constantly dogged. The traction system even has employed women as spotters and, it is asserted, by getting these organizers involved in other ways. While these conditions are well known the daily papers of the city, the Mayor, the police, and all other officials are apparently blind to the transaction going on, and it is evident that the entire city government is in harmony with the forces employed by the Street Railway Company. In spite of this array against the union organizers are making progress and is being made in secretly organizing the employes of the traction company. Several attempts have been made to reach an amicable settlement with the car company, but all overtures have been turned down by the management. There is a growing sentiment that a strike of the traction men should be called, but those who are in charge have not as yet arrived at the point where they believe that the last resort act is necessary to take. The fact that Indianapolis, one of the prominent cities of the country, would permit local conditions to fill the city with the class of men it has for the purpose of brutally assassinating organizers and members of labor unions, is a travesty on American freedom.

### UNION MAN FOR CONGRESS.

Baltimore, Md., Oct. 25.—John H. Ferguson, president of the Maryland and District of Columbia State Federation of Labor, president of the Baltimore Federation of Labor, and a member of the local Typographical Union, is a candidate for Congress, as an independent ticket. The union men of Baltimore are rallying to his support, and indications are that will receive very close to unanimous support from them. He has been active in union affairs for a number of years, and his ability to qualify have never been questioned. His record as a trade unionist is excellent and should he be elected would add material strength to the labor group now in Congress.

### ST. THOMAS GROWING.

St. Thomas, Can., Oct. 25.—The Trades and Labor Assembly held recently one of the largest gatherings in its history. The secretary reported that he had received information from the secretaries of the different organizations and had ascertained that there were thirty-two local unions in the city, with a total membership of 2,825. These figures show a splendid increase in the numerical strength of the St. Thomas unions.

### GIRLS ON STRIKE.

Frostburg, Md., Oct. 25.—A strike is on at the Parker Hosiery Mills. The girl strikers claim that the wages paid here are not as much as are paid for the same work at the other mills of the company at Portsmouth, Va.

### KEATING GRILLS OPERATORS.

Denver, Colo., Oct. 25.—Representative Edward Keating, now serving his first term in Congress, and a member of the Labor Committee of the House of Representatives, delivered an address in Carpenters' Union Hall. He discussed the conditions existing in the mining strike district of Southern Colorado. He having just made a personal investigation of the conditions existing in the mining strike district of Southern Colorado. He having just made a personal investigation of the conditions. "The conditions existing in Las Animas and Huerfano Counties are worse than in any place in the whole country—they are without parallel—and the only thing that will change the conditions is to unionize the coal miners employed in the Southern coal fields. The coal miners told me that apparently they were permitted to buy wherever they chose, but as soon as an employe was made the boss of every soon out of a job. I found that the officers of Las Animas and Huerfano Counties for the past ten years had been owned body and soul by the Colorado Fuel and Iron and the Victor-American Fuel Companies, with the exception of one Coroner, whose verdict in a mine explosion case favored the owners and he very soon passed out of politics. The foreigners employed by these companies are subject to the most inhuman treatment, and American freedom, as practiced by these financial pirates, is both a disgrace and a farce."

### HOW ABOUT THIS?

Pittsburgh, Oct. 25.—Recently the Western Union Telegraph Company refused to serve the Pittsburgh Leader with a report of the ball game on the local field, which was to be reproduced on that papers electric scoreboard for the entertainment of the patrons of the Pittsburghers. The excuse offered by the telegraph company for suddenly refusing this service, so the Leader claims, is that there is a clause in their contract with the owners of the ball club to which they are not permitted to furnish bulletin service. The nut is not difficult to crack, when it is known that there were more people watching the newspaper's electric board than there were at the ball game, according to the Leader. The Leader is highly incensed at the action of the Western Union Telegraph Company and asserts that it proposes to find out the reasons why. The Leader will undoubtedly be a warm supporter of the postoffice department in its efforts to effectively champion taking over the telegraph and telephone lines and making them a part of the postal system of this country.

### HOPE ITS TRUE.

Toronto, Canada, Oct. 25.—The Industrial Banner in a recent issue says: "Though it is premature to say yet, the fact what will be the ultimate outcome of the vote of the two big carpenters' organizations on the question of amalgamation, advices tend to confirm the belief that the membership of both the Amalgamated Society and United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners in Toronto have voted almost solidly in favor of the proposition. It is known that the same action has been taken in Hamilton, while it is said that the amalgamated men in Winnipeg are not so favorably inclined. All that is needed is a bare majority vote of both organizations to make the success of the amalgamation scheme. Local members of both organizations state they are confident the vote will be largely favorable. It will be some little time yet before the result is positively known, but, as has been said, the indications point decidedly to a majority vote in favor of the amalgamation scheme."

### A FRIENDLY MAYOR.

Pittsfield, Mass., Oct. 25.—The Mayor of this city has shown himself friendly to organized labor. Provisions have been made to erect a new school building. It was learned that several non-union concerns were looking forward to securing the contract. The Carpenters' Union took the matter up with the Mayor, and as a result when bids were advertised for one of the specifications was that organized labor should be employed throughout. The reason which actuated the Mayor to take this stand, according to his own story, was that at one time he had been a Textile Worker, and remembered the hardships the men and women of that craft suffered through long hours and small wages due to the lack of organization. The school building therefore will be built entirely by union labor.

### PHYSICIANS CAN ADVERTISE.

Denver, Colo., Oct. 25.—An important decision has been handed down by the State Supreme Court in which is declared unconstitutional that section of the medical law which gives the state board of medical examiners the right to revoke a physician's license when he be advertises. The court held that a physician's license is a valuable piece of property, and that the state authority have never been questioned. His record as a trade unionist is excellent and should he be elected would add material strength to the labor group now in Congress.

### POWDER DRIVERS' INCREASE.

Scranton, Pa., Oct. 25.—The Powder Wagon Drivers employed by the Powder Company, have secured an increase in wages and a one-year agreement. The increase is from $2.50 to $2.75 per day, with overtime rate for an advance of 25 cents per day and nine hours the scale having been heretofore $2.50 per day, with overtime rate for an hour to twelve. Overtime is also to be paid for at an increased rate. This organization is a local union affiliated to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

### SAFETY AT SEA URGED.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Investigation of ship construction to make ocean passenger traffic safe, particularly from fire at sea, has been proposed in a resolution by Senator Works. It provides for a Presidential commission of three.

### REFRESHING, INDEED.

Atlantic City, Oct. 25.—One session of the American Electric Railway Convention was taken up by an address by the President on the philosophy of the Electric Traction System, his subject being along the lines of profit-sharing with employes. One of the most difficult problems in the organized labor movement has been that of organizing the employes of traction systems. Splendid headway has been made by the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes. The fact that material progress has been made is reflected in the addresses made before the convention of traction magnates by the character of the subjects under discussion. In fact, the greater portion of the time of the convention was taken up in discussions relative to means whereby employment would be made more attractive. It is understood, of course, that all of these humanitarian measures do not originate from the benefit sympathies of the employers, but because the trade union sentiment, is rapidly molding the minds of a very large per cent of the employes of Street Car Systems. In addition to this report the convention received the report of the Committee on Welfare of Employes recommended sick and death benefits, pension funds, unemployment benefits, profit-sharing, savings funds, loan funds, merit system of rewards, and the encouragement of home owning. Some change this from ten to fifteen years ago.

### COMPENSATION LAW RESULTS.

Bay City, Mich., Oct. 25.—During September, 1912, the first month that the workingmen's compensation law was in force in Bay City, forty fatalities occurred among the workmen. At that time there were only 39 employers and about 250,000 employes operating under the provisions of the new law. During December, 1913, just one year from the date of the law going into effect, there were 10,000 employers and over 450,000 employes operating under the law, but only seventy-one fatalities were reported. While there was an increase in the number of employes and employers of 15 per cent there was a decrease of 31 per cent in the total number of fatalities, as compared with the first month of the law. The officials charged with the carrying out of this law says: "There is one fact which is not generally known, and that is shown in relation to the decrease in the number of fatal accidents since the passage of the compensation act has been in effect. This is that while there has been a steady gain in the number of employes on our pay-roll, therefore a rapidly growing field for the fatalities which would occur in the natural course of events, the number has been a steady lessening of the actual number of fatal injuries."

### CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION

Fresno, Cal., Oct. 25.—The fourteenth annual convention of the California State Federation of Labor was made up of 150 delegates, representing 100,000 members throughout the State. The reports of the officers were voluminous, and covered the activities of the year. The convention was the attempt made by the Socialists to openly capture the offices of the State Federation. In this, however, they were disappointed, being badly beaten. D. P. Haggerty was re-elected secretary-treasurer. Two Socialist presidents having been re-elected secretary-treasurer. Stockton was awarded the city in which will be held the 1914 convention.

### INSIST ON CLEAN BAKERIES.

Atlantic City, N. J., Oct. 25.—New Jersey bakers who do not conduct their establishments in strict accordance with the law have been warned that summary action will soon be taken against them by Commissioner of Labor Lewis T. Bryan. At the annual convention of the National Association of Retail Confectioners and Ice Cream Manufacturers the commissioner declared it his intention to get the big stick in operation in a few weeks with the intention of forcibly impressing upon the bakers as well as the confectioners that they must comply with the law. The pure-food standards must be maintained in bakeries as well as in similar establishments, and all the surroundings must be sanitary, so that there exists not even a suspicion that they are a menace to public health."

### ASKS CONSTRUCTION.

Washington, Oct. 25.—In a brief filed with the Supreme Court of the United States the Department of Justice asked to have the question solved as to whether a railroad company which fails to withhold wages on duty for a longer period of time than that allowed by the Hours of Service Act has been by that act compelled as there are employes in the crew or an unit, free from fine for the crew as a unit. The case arose in the enforcement suit against the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Company, and an injunction secured against it to withhold the amount of the penalty or penalties recoverable by the government is to be assessed by the court or jury.

### PENSIONS FOR CLERGYMEN.

New York, Oct. 25.—At the general convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church a proposition was submitted relation to social subjects were introduced and disposed of. One action taken by the convention was the establishing by an overwhelming majority, a maximum pension of $2,000 and a minimum of $600 for clergymen, the action on the part of the Episcopal Conference, and is actuated by a desire to protect the clergymen from the uncertainty of pecuniary after having given the better portion of their lives to the ministry.

### APPOINTS UNION MAN.

St. Paul, Oct. 25.—The Governor of this State has appointed E. G. Hall, president of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, a member of the committee of thirty to study and report a plan for the reorganization of the several State departments in the interest of efficiency and economy. Mr. Hall is the only representative of labor on the committee, even the farmers having been ignored in its make-up.

### THE MINERS' GIFT.

London, Oct. 25.—Reynolds' has this to say in commenting on the Dublin strike: "The decision of the Miners' Conference to finance the Dublin strikers to the tune of £5,000 per week will bring a flush of pride to every one who is interested in the faith and progress of Democracy. It is one of the finest things that trade unionism of this or any other country has ever done, or yet done. It demonstrates in absolute and unequivocal manner the feeling of solidarity that now animates the bulk of wage earners in this Island. So long as such a spirit prevails there is no need to cavil at slight setbacks to labor. So long as such a body of men as the Miners—men whose every penny is gained in the sweat of heavy manual toil—are willing in these times to be ready to sacrifice themselves for Irish Workers, we may depend upon it that the heart of labor is sound and that its ultimate victory over the exploiter and the sweater is assured. We all know how any effort to raise money for objects which appeal to national pride of conventional sentiment; we know how ready every one of the present generation is to turn toward saving some friend or acquaintance from penury or starvation, but to shoulder such a huge portion of others' burdens—the burdens of men and women whom the Miners have never met, and who most of the Miners never will meet—is an other matter. It proves that the sentiments of the Miners are right. Not only must the starving in Dublin be fed, because they are starving, but they must be kept alive by outside aid because their fight is the fight of labor throughout the nation."

### A COLORADO SCHEME.

Denver, Colo., Oct. 25.—There is on foot here a plan whereby the Government of the State is being urged to exercise the supreme police power of the State to declare martial law in the strike zone, seize and operate the mines with the union coal miners on the same terms on which independent operators who have settled with the mine workers until the legislature can be convened and pass a compulsory arbitration law. While this is a current story, it is not believed that the Governor of the state will attempt to carry out this program. The threat of Gov. Foss of Massachusetts that in the event of a railroad strike he would call the New Haven and Hartford Railroad, that he would convene an extra session of the legislature and pass a compulsory arbitration law, seems to have engrafted this idea in the minds of some public officials. Under the constitution of the United States no state legislature is given authority to originate, pass and enforce a compulsory arbitration law. Furthermore, the union men of the country will not submit to any statutory law which establishes a rate of wages. They will not submit to it because there is no provision in the United States constitution now in existence upon which gives any state legislature the right to pass such a law. In the second place the average union of the country proposes to have an equal part in determining the wages which they are to receive. That is where many of workmen would be regulated by law would be chronicled in history as an era of "legislative chattery." The organized workmen are not so enwrapped with the idea of industrial peace as to permit the lawmaking power to strip them of the rights to which they are entitled under the present laws of our country.

### PATTERNMAKERS ACTIVE.

Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 25.—Patternmakers in this city and vicinity are again making their organization felt in the ranks of labor. Organizing meetings are being held weekly, and the ranks of the union Patternmakers are being steadily and materially recruited. There is an active interest being taken in these meetings by practically all non-union Patternmakers, and the campaign is making such headway that the prediction is freely made that the Union Hall of the Patternmakers will become affiliated before the efforts of the organization cease.

### TEXTILE WORKERS' MEETING.

Philadelphia, Oct. 25.—The Textile Workers of America opened their thirteenth annual convention on October 20 in Kensington Labor Lyceum Hall. More than 200 delegates from all sections of the country were present. Among the more important subjects to be considered are the national eight-hour workday, abolition of child labor, and the good laws dealing with better sanitation and working conditions.

### TO PENSION MISSIONARIES.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Old-age pensions and sick benefits for the several clerical and missionary workers of the Seventh-day Adventists are asked in a petition to the action taken by the General and North American Conference of that denomination in session in New York city. Missionary leaders throughout the world working in the interest of the sect will be able to draw from the fund, as will also their dependants.

### A SUBSTANTIAL RAISE.

St. Paul, Oct. 25.—The Executive Board of the Typographical Union has announced that another newspaper scale has been negotiated. This is the scale of the American Press Association, which provides for a substantial increase. The increase ranges from $1.50 per week to $6.50 per week, and includes every employe of the American Press Association.

### DISCRIMINATION.

Erie, Pa., Oct. 25.—The General Electric Company, of this city, has stated that it did not discriminate between union and non-union men. As an occurrence which came under the observation of the members of the Patternmakers' League recently would seem to indicate that this statement is untrue and that a union card bars any employe from securing work at that institution. Two men from Detroit, Patternmakers, entered the employ of this company, but later handed in their resignations. A short time subsequently, one of them returned and entered the shop. He was questioned as to when the foreman on the job suggested to him that if he desired to retain employment he must tear up his union card. The Patternmaker refused to do this, and was given a week's notice to quit the command. At the end of the week he was again approached, but refused to accede to the company's request, and the workman was told that his services were no longer required. This is a sample of the campaign being carried on by one of the various manufacturing companies in this city for many months.

### PAINTERS ARE WINNING.

Philadelphia, Oct. 25.—That the organized Painters are urging their campaign for fair conditions with vigor, determination, and persistence to complete success is evidenced by the flood of applications pouring in at the headquarters of the Building Trades Council. The Painters are asking for an advance of 2½-2 cents an hour, making the scale in this city Philadelphia is the third largest city in the United States, and as a comparison the following list of cents per hour is given: Boston, Mont., $1.1-4 cents; St. Louis, 60 cents; Salt Lake City, 62 1-2 cents; Victoria, British Columbia, 56 1-4 cents; and Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, New York City, and Boston, 50 cents. It is considered that the 50 cents of 45 cents is too low, but the Painters are determined that this latter figure shall be the minimum scale for the present.

### OHIO'S COMPENSATION LAW

Columbus, Oct. 25.—During the eighteen months the workmen's compensation law has been in force, 2,782 firms, with 124,191 employes, have been covered by State compensation. During that period receding in aggregated $602,347 and awards made amounted to $126,522. There are fatalities pending reserved, aggregating $109,556. There were 10,000 damage claims filed, and 8,390 of these have been settled. There have been 1,000 injuries in a report filed with the Governor by the members of the State Board of Liability Awards. The report states that in the case of some of the safety devices installed the number of accidents and deaths has been reduced in factories.

### WEST VIRGINIA MINERS.

Washington, Oct. 25.—The Blue Field (W. Va.) Telegraph, in a special edition emphasizing the coal industry, graphically gives the nativity of the miners and mine workers employed in West Virginia, as follows: Total employes, 21,692; native, 12,462; Italians, 9,701; Hungarian, 4,942; Polish, 2,282; Slavish, 2,120; Austrian, 1,961; Russian, 1,925; Greek, 2,262. There are 120 coke plants in the State, with 13,751 ovens, and of these 5,262 are operating. The average price per ton received for coke was $1.81, a decrease of 6 cents from 1911, these figures being based on the year 1912.

### GET INCREASE.

Toronto, Can., Oct. 25.—Through the efforts of friendly intervention the threatened strike of the men in the Water Works Department will receive an advance in wages of 25 cents a day. Earlier in the year, when the estimates were being considered by the City Council, action was taken increasing the wages of the men in the Water Works Department, but for some reason the increase was not put into effect. The matter was recently called to the attention of the City Council and the members, receiving assurances that the men involved receive the advance, and the increase will now be paid.

### AFTER SHORTER HOURS.

St. Paul, Oct. 25.—The building trades unions of this city are launching an agitation campaign for the eight-hour workday, so far as all building trades workmen. As a preliminary step in this direction a committee composed of delegates from the various unions are to confer and also visit the various unions for the purpose of crystallizing a sentiment in favor of the shorter work week. Should the campaign develop sufficient strength an effort will be put forth in the coming spring to secure the shorter hours.

### STRIKE SETTLED.

Joplin, Mo., Oct. 25.—The strike of the Firemen's Union in two of the local printing establishments has been settled on the terms and conditions. The latter made some concessions from their original demands and the proprietors granted the union scale. The agreement which has been signed carries an arbitration clause whereby all difficulty in the future will be settled by arbitration, if necessary.

### COST OF LAWS.

Washington, Oct. 25.—The Bureau of Railway Economics has issued a bulletin giving the amount which so-called train crew legislation in the United States has cost the railroads by way of the increased operating expenses. The bureau estimates that such legislation is responsible for the payment of train crew and additional cost to railroads of $6,000,000 a year. The additional cost to railroads in New Jersey is $351,000.

### AFTER ANTI-BOYCOTT REPEAL.

Denver, Colo., Oct. 25.—The officials of the Colorado State Federation of Labor are circulating petitions among the laboring people of the State for signatures that will give to a vote a proposed law calling for the repeal of the anti-boycott law. This law has stood as a threat against the union labor forces of the State whenever an attempt was made to generally unfurl the union emblem in places of business known to be unfair to union labor.

### CALIFORNIA—NOW FLORIDA.

Washington, Oct. 25.—A law passed by the last California Legislature forbidding the holding of real property in the State by Japanese resulted in international complications. Now, although there were no serious results. Now it appears that Japanese land holders of California have entered into a scheme whereby they are to transfer their activities clear across the continent to Florida. It develops that land dealers of the latter State have interested a number of Japanese, and that quite a number have already purchased tracts of land in Florida, and now comes Florida's Representatives in Congress with a vehement protest against permitting the representatives of this Oriental race to colonize in the State of Florida. The Governor of the State has been feverishly appealed to to call an extra session of the Legislature for the only purpose of combatting the influx of this undesirable, unassimilable yellow horde. The Governor announces that he is investigating the question of Japanese and land companies, and will act as his Judgement indicates as soon as he has made up his mind as to the advisableness of the diversion of the Japanese. These Japanese who are already in Florida are settling in what is known as the "Everglades belt." It is predicted that if the state legislature is convened in extraordinary session a bill more drastic in its terms than the California bill will be passed. If a few more states become interested in the tremendous influx from foreign countries it may be possible to have passed by Congress an Immigration Law that will in a measure protect one of the people of the United States, instead of individual States applying such measures as concern the people of their states.

### RAILROAD WRECKS.

Washington, Oct. 25.—At least twenty-five soldiers were killed and more than 100 injured when a special train carrying 175 enlisted men of the United States Coast Artillery jumped the track from a high trestle near Calera, Ala., when all the killed lost their lives by being thrown from the cars when they struck the bottom of the ravine, some fifty feet from the top of the trestle. Behind the engine, building of elongated pole, proved stanch, holding a chair car that had been turned on end from going into the embankment. Twenty-three passengers in the car probably were saved from death in the wreck of the midnight special of the Louisville and Nashville, at Calera, Ill. As it was two passengers were probably killed outright, three others seriously hurt, and ten more severely cut and bruised. Spreading rails is the reason given for the disaster. Twenty-eight persons were injured, three seriously, when a Big Four passenger train jumped the embankment three miles south of Tiffin, Ohio. This accident also was caused by spreading rails.

### BUFFALO PLASTERERS STRIKE.

Buffalo, N. Y., Oct. 25.—The members of the local Plasterers' Union have been on strike since October 4. The demands of the Plasterers, which precipitated the strike, were for an eight-hour day for the days of the week and one-half holiday on Saturday, with no increase in wages, the rate to remain as heretofore. Practically every member of the local union, 180 in all. Meetings are being held daily and a splendid fighting spirit is being maintained by the strikers. The employers have been unable to secure any strike breakers, and as a consequence this portion of the building trades industry is practically at a standstill. Inquiries are to the effect that a break will soon be made by some of the employers, and when that time comes there will undoubtedly be a satisfactory settlement reached.

### ERIE'S NEW DAILY.

Erie, Pa., Oct. 25.—The Erie Journal of October 24 came out as the official organ of a campaign of organization, having been conducted in Erie for the entire year, has made a daily appearance and is the news of the labor movement. With a daily paper in the field devoted to the interests of trade unionism, there should be an impetus given to the movement, which could be secured in no other way. The only means of labor to have an opportunity to maintain a publication devoted to their own best interests.

### GESSLER SUCCEEDS LEECH.

Washington, Oct. 25.—The appointment of Edward E. Gessler, Craftsman Instructor in the Public Printing Office at Manila, P. I., as temporary Director of Printing in the Philippines to succeed John S. Leech, has been announced. It is understood that Mr. Leech resigned at the request of Governor General Harrison, after he sent to the President, without the Governor's knowledge, a letter charging that the Governor had taken sides against a rumored change in the salary schedule.

### CONTRACTORS SIGN UP.

Port Worth, Oct. 25.—The Chairman of the State Council of Carpenters has succeeded in signing up two of the largest contracting firms in the city, the specialty of contracting in the small towns. The agreement provides for several changes, and carries with it a provision for the arbitration of any differences that may arise in the future.

### DEPORT CHINESE.

Washington, Oct. 25.—The Commissioner General of Immigration has ordered the deportation of fifty-one Chinese from Los Angeles by way of San Francisco September 1 "in transit" to Mexico. They were arrested near Calexico, Cal., having walked across the border into the States.

### OPEN NEW SHOPS.

Decatur, Ill., Oct. 25.—The opening of the Wabash Railroad's $2,500,000 locomotive shops here mark the transfer of the shops at Springfield to Decatur. Fully 200 employes of the Springfield shops have moved with their families to Decatur within the next few days to take positions in the new plant.

### FISHERMEN CO-OPERATE.

Astoria, Oreg., Oct. 25.—Some ten years ago the price paid to Fishermen on the Columbia River for salmon was as low as 2½ cents, and a strike of these Fishermen was lost, with the result that there was a law by the State officials assisting the companies to defeat the Fishermen. Conditions were equally bad in the canneries, the wages were not enough to provide a decent living, and often the sanitary conditions were beyond description. This resulted in the strongest funds of the Fishermen being gathered into a fund and a co-operative cannery started. This institution was not a very pretentious enterprise in the beginning, but after ten years of struggle, the Fishermen's Union Cannery, of Astoria, now owned by the Fishermen themselves, stands as a monument to the persistency and business ability of the workingmen of the Northwest. The property is now valued at $400,000, with no indebtedness. The price of the salmon is more than 2½ cents per pound to 7½ cents per pound. At this price the Fishermen receive an average of $2,000 per year for their labor. In addition to this, every member of the union received last year an extra bonus of $1,000. The manager of the Association is just an ordinary Fisherman, and receives $5,000 per year for his services. Every women employed in the cannery owned by the union receive $5 per day, the same wage paid to the men employed in doing the same work. The buildings are all sanitary, and the best of conditions prevail. This incident of what can be done by the right of circumstances can be duplicated by other organizations if they so will.

### MINISTERS' MINIMUM WAGE.

Pittsburgh, Oct. 25.—The Pittsburgh Synod of the Reform Church has gone on record in favor of establishing a minimum salary for its preachers, fixing $900 per year and a parsonage, as the lowest figure to be offered any man to preach the gospel. One of the Pittsburgh daily papers in commenting editorially says, that the above amount is only $200 per year and a parsonage for its preachers by the synod means more than the mere question of material well-being of the ministers and their families. It means that, if they are to be of service, they must be forced to recognize it, too. They may use other words, and the words may not be those which we know of in the Reformed synod, but the meaning will be the same, regardless of the language employed. The preachers are right when the minimum wage problem as hard as the day wage problem, but the former is slower to admit it. The question of the minimum salary named need not be discussed, as the fact remains that the ministers have been forced to classify themselves as victims of the economic system, and to cry out against it. And just like the wage workers, they have seen the futility of waiting upon the benevolence of the employing class to give the relief. They have seen that if they are to get relief from the depressing conditions that been them they must make the fight themselves. They have seen it in the case of himself. They recognize the existence of conditions which they have denied, or ignored, for the past generation, and that their own homes they have less trouble to see them. In admitting themselves to be human wage earners, the Synod preachers have put themselves where they can see things in a better light."

### COPPERSMITHS GET MORE.

Denison, Tex., Oct. 25.—The Coppersmiths employed by the Missouri, Kansas and Texas System have been granted an increase in wages, shorter hours and better shop conditions. Apprentices and Helpers are also included. The increase granted by the agreement is 3½ cents per hour; together with an eight-hour day, except in the car shops, where nine hours will prevail. With the increase granted the Coppersmiths, "The Katy" has raised the wages of four crafts employed in the shops on the system, the Machinists, Boilermakers, and Blacksmiths having also secured material advances in wages and improved shop conditions.

### SETTLE DISPUTE.

Washington, Oct. 25.—The settlement of the strike of the engineers on the New Haven and Hartford Railroad and its engineers and firemen over the rules and working conditions governing them was announced by the railroad. The management stated that following several conferences with committee representing the engineers and firemen and one representative of the brotherhoods there were agreed to which will be levied at once. The schedule, the statement says, is satisfactory to both sides, and the entire management contended, as well as all the safeguards against possible misinterpretation for which the men contended.

### RAILROAD PAYS ALIMONY.

Madison, Wis., Oct. 25.—The Lake Superior Terminal and Transfer Railway Company has been ordered to pay $10 a week in alimony to Mrs. Minnie Lawrence, the being a ruling made by the State Industrial Commission. The award is endorsed by the railroad company when in most accidental death case March Ten-dollar-a-week deaths for Mrs. Lawrence had been granted a decree of the court awarding her the custody of five children and $25 a month alimony.